Attorne Docket No.: 10559-055001 / P7404

Applicant: Jay H. Connelly. Serial No.: 09/412,792 Filed: October 5, 1999

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In the claims:

Please amend the claims as follows:

Currently Amended) A method of broadcasting data, comprising:

sending to a receiver scheduling information that includes a scheduled time and identifies an encoding format; and

selecting one or more viewer applications, capable of processing a broadcast of data in the encoding format at the scheduled time, from a plurality of viewer applications; and broadcasting the data at the scheduled time.

- 2.(Original) The method of claim 1, wherein the information includes a content format of the broadcast of data.
- 3.(Original) The method of claim 1, wherein the sent information identifies one of a viewer age and a content provider for the data.
- 4.(Original) The method of claim 3, wherein the sent information identifies a channel for broadcasting the data; and

the broadcast transmits the data in the identified channel.

- 5.(Original) The method of claim 4, wherein the identified channel comprises one of a cable channel, a wireless channel, and a multicast group address.
- 6.(Currently Amended) The method of claim 21, wherein the viewer applications decode broadcasted data.
- 7.(Original) The method of claim 1, wherein the broadcasting starts at a predetermined time after the sending of the information.
 - 8.(Original) The method of claim 2, wherein the content format is an ATVEF format.

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9:(Original) The method of claim 1, further comprising:

sending second information about a second scheduled time and content format for a broadcast of new data, the second content format being indicative of a new viewer application for processing the new data; and

then, broadcasting the new data during the second scheduled time.

10.(Currently Amended) A method of processing data, comprising:

receiving scheduling information providing broadcast times for data broadcasts and information to identify an encoding format and one or more viewer applications, selected from a plurality of viewer applications, to process the data broadcasts;

receiving data from one of the broadcasts at the scheduled broadcast time; and processing the received data with a the selected viewer application responsive to the scheduling information.

11.(Original) The method of claim 10, wherein the scheduling information identifies channels scheduled to broadcast the data.

12.(Original) The method of claim 10, wherein the scheduling information associated with a portion of the broadcasts identifies one of content formats, viewer ages, and content providers of the associated data.

13.(Original) The method of claim 10, wherein the processing comprises: decoding the received data.

14. (Currently Amended) A method of processing data, comprising:

receiving scheduling information that provides broadcast times for data broadcasts and information for identifying an encoding format and a viewer applications, selected from a plurality of viewer applications, for processing the broadcasts; and

writing the scheduling information to a scheduling table having entries indexed by scheduled broadcast times and channels.

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data; and

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15.(Original) The method of claim 14, further comprising:

selecting a viewer application to process received data based on information in the scheduling table.

16, (Original) A method of processing data comprising:

receiving data from a broadcast at a scheduled broadcast time; and selecting a viewer application from a table of available viewer applications to process the data; and

processing the received data with the selected viewer application.

17.(Original) The method of claim 16, further comprising:

looking up format information on the received data in a scheduling table; and
wherein the selecting uses the looked up information to select a viewer application.

18.(Currently Amended) A system for receiving data broadcasts, comprising:

an interface to receive broadcasts of data in an encoding format;

a data storage device storing a plurality of viewer applications to decode the received

a processor coupled to the data storage device, the processor to select and execute ones of the viewer applications from a plurality of viewer applications based on scheduling information and the encoding format for the broadcasts.

19.(Original) The system of claim 18, wherein the data storage device further stores an executable control application for updating a scheduling table in response to receiving new scheduling information for a broadcast of data.

20.(Currently Amended) The system of claim 19, wherein the control application selects the ones of the viewer applications to decode data based on information from the scheduling table.

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The system of claim 19, wherein the control application selects the 21.(Currently Amended) ones of the viewer applications based on availability data for the viewer applications stored in a viewer application selection table.

A data storage device encoding computer executable instructions 22.(Currently Amended) for a method of broadcasting data, the instructions to cause a system to:

send information to a receiver about a scheduled time and encoding format for a broadcast of data, the encoding format being indicative of one or more viewer applications selected from a plurality of viewer applications for processing the data; and broadcast the data at the scheduled time.

23.(Original) The device of claim 22, wherein the information identifies one of a content provider, a viewer age, and a scheduled broaddast channel for the data.

The device of claim 22, wherein the instructions further cause the 24.(Currently Amended) system to broadcast the data at a predetermined time after the sending of the information.

The device of claim 22, the instructions further causing the system 25.(Currently Amended) to:

broadcast second information about a second scheduled time and content format for a new broadcast of new data, the second content format being indicative of another viewer application selected from a plurality of viewer applications to process the new data; and then, broadcast the new data at the second scheduled time.

A data storage device storing executable instructions, the 26.(Currently Amended) instructions to cause a computer to:

receive scheduling information for encoding formats and broadcast times of broadcasts of data;

receive data from one of the broadcasts at the scheduled broadcast time; and

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process the received data with a viewer application for processing encoding format, the selection of a viewer application from a plurality of viewer applications being responsive to the scheduling information for the one of the broadcasts.

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27.(Original) The device of claim 26, wherein the scheduling information identifies channels scheduled to broadcast the data.

28.(Original) The device of claim 26, wherein the instructions to process further causes the computer to:

decode the received data.

29.(Original) The device of claim 26, the instructions further causing the computer to: write the scheduling information to a scheduling table having entries indexed by scheduled broadcast times; and

wherein the instruction causing the computer to process causes the computer to select the viewer application based on data from the scheduling table.

30.(Original) The device of claim 26, wherein the instruction causing the computer to process causes the computer to:

select the viewer application from a viewer application selection table listing available viewer applications.

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